

She can now add the Legion of Honour to the host of other accolades bestowed upon her over the years, including the National Organization for Women's Susan B. Anthony Award (1997), the Visionary Ending Violence Award from the Harvard Office of Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (2005), the New York County Lawyer's Association Edith I. Spivack Award (2009), and the Civic Spirit Award from the Women's City Club (2016), among a plethora of others throughout her storied career.

I am so pleased that our long-time ally has recognized Jessica for her critical contributions to anti-trafficking and women's rights around the world, and I am proud to be able to do the same today.

RECOGNIZING OCTOBER AS NATIONAL SPINE HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2021

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing October as National Spine Health Awareness Month.

In 2019, nearly 40 percent of Americans suffered from chronic neck or back pain according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Those numbers increased to nearly 45 percent in adults with income below the federal poverty level. Back pain is also the number one cause of missed workdays and the leading cause of job-related disability and pain. In fact, it costs \$250 billion to the U.S. economy annually.

Unfortunately, during the COVID-19 pandemic, many of us have been sitting more, eating more, and moving less: all of which have exacerbated spinal problems.

The National Spine Health Foundation (NSHF) located in my district in Reston, Virginia, is the only patient-centered non-profit dedicated to helping patients overcome debilitating spinal conditions. The Foundation is especially dedicated to helping prevent abuse of opioids used for pain. Back pain is the most common non-cancer related reason for an opioid prescription. Decreased opioid use also reduces the risk of future opioid dependency.

I would like to congratulate NSHF on receiving the International Society for the Advancement of Spine Surgery's award in 2021 for its research on the hospital protocol called Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS). The ERAS for back and neck surgeries has resulted in a greater than 50 percent reduction in postoperative opioid consumption and pain scores.

In addition, NSHF's Medical and Scientific Board includes fifty of the top spine specialists in the nation. Through patient education, award-winning research, and advocacy, NSHF partners with these top spine specialists to provide patients with the tools to make informed decisions by providing information on prevention, nonsurgical and surgical treatments.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the importance of good spinal health, supporting individuals who suffer from spinal issues, and thanking the NSHF

and the health care providers who help not just in October, but all year long.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2021

Mr. SWALWELL. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 313.

EDWARD ROTHSCHILD

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Edward Rothschild for receiving the Arvada Chamber of Commerce's Man of the Year Award.

This award is given to a member of the community who has displayed outstanding leadership and a passion for helping those around them. As a business owner, advocate, and dedicated volunteer for his community, Edward has proven himself to be a champion for businesses and the larger Arvada community.

He has served in many leadership roles in the community including on the Arvada Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors, Executive Committee and Advocacy KAPS Council; the Sooper Credit Union Community Foundation Board; Bike Friendly Arvada Board; City of Arvada Chatter Review Committee; and the Whisper Creek Townhomes Homeowners Association. He also volunteers his time with numerous organizations such as the Arvada Planning Commission, Foothills Animal Shelter Foundation, and MS Society of CO/WY. In addition to volunteering, Edward has helped support and sponsor several local organizations such as Arvada Festivals Commission, Arvada Center for the Arts & Humanities, Bicycle Colorado, Chabad of NW Denver, Colorado Environmental Film Festival and Colorado Automobile Dealers Association.

Congratulations to Edward Rothschild for receiving the Man of the Year Award. His hard work, leadership and dedication to our community is greatly appreciated.

CELEBRATING THE 132ND ANNIVERSARY OF ST. JAMES A.M.E. CHURCH OF DOUGLASVILLE, GEORGIA

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2021

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 132nd anniversary of the St. James African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church of Douglasville, Georgia on October 10, 2021.

Since its founding in 1889, St. James A.M.E. Church has served the greater Douglasville area through ministry, service,

and fellowship. As they mark this momentous occasion, it is my pleasure to extend congratulations to the church leaders, elders, and congregation. There are many ways to gauge the impact a religious institution has on its community. However, one of the most telling is its longevity, for that demonstrates that teaching of a loving gospel can move generations of God's people.

The mission of St. James A.M.E. is to minister to the spiritual, physical, emotional, and environmental needs of all people through spreading the word of Christ. However, this church community does not just preach the gospel on Sundays, but instead carries the gospel with them every day through their good deeds. Saving the lost, serving the needy, feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, housing the homeless, caring for the sick, are only a few examples of how St. James A.M.E. impacts its community.

St. James A.M.E. has been a beacon of Christian light and fellowship for a very long time. They take care of their community and those that are struggling. Loving our neighbors as we love ourselves is deeply engrained in St. James A.M.E.'s culture. Through the spirit of selfless generosity and love for others, God has shined his light on this congregation, and you all have taken that light and steadfastly turned it on your community. For fifteen years, St. James A.M.E. has partnered with the Atlanta Community Food Bank to serve meals and provide goods to fellow neighbors. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the church set up a mobile food bank and food pantry for patrons to easily get meals for their families. Additionally, St. James A.M.E. organized a COVID-19 vaccination event to ensure that citizens of the greater Douglasville area had access to this lifesaving vaccine.

Throughout the 132 years of St. James A.M.E., its members and fellow Black and African American neighbors were not afforded the same freedoms as their white brothers and sisters. This church has lived through the great Civil Rights Movement and the continued effects of racism and bigotry. Through their perseverance, they have continued to promote equality in their community, through actions such as working tirelessly during the 2020 election cycle to ensure voters were registered and had all the information they needed to cast their ballot on election day.

I am pleased to congratulate your church leaders, elders, and the generations of congregants at St. James A.M.E. Church for setting positive examples as leaders in ministry for the city of Douglasville. From the first pastors back in 1889, Reverend Pierce and Reverend Lawrence, to today's Reverend LeRoy Ladson, Jr., these leaders have grounded this community's faith and united the people of Douglasville through the Word of God.

Madam Speaker, as St. James A.M.E. Church of Douglasville, Georgia marks its 132nd anniversary, I would like to applaud this church's steadfast commitment to God's Word and God's people. I want to close with a fitting scripture that epitomizes the spirit of St. James A.M.E., Galatians 6:9, which reads, "And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up."

May God continue to bless St. James A.M.E. Church of Douglasville, Georgia.

HONORING THE GOVERNMENT
SERVICE OF DAVID GOOTNICK

**HON. AUMUA AMATA COLEMAN
RADEWAGEN**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2021

Mrs. RADEWAGEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank GAO Director David Gootnick for his 27 years of federal service, including 20 years at the Government Accountability Office. His leadership on 50 reports and testimonies covering the territories and freely associated states has been a critical source of information and insight for the Natural Resources Committee. In particular, I want to highlight David's five reviews of the implementation of minimum wage increases in American Samoa—beginning in 2010 and last reporting in 2020. These reports provided vital information that helped Congress monitor economic conditions in the territory and take appropriate actions to revise the schedule of America Samoa minimum wage increases. I thank David for his service, and congratulate him on his retirement. Best wishes to him on his future activities.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF CORPORAL BURL MULLINS

HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2021

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Corporal Burl Mullins, who served in the United States Army during World War II and the Korean War and spent his life in service to our country. I want to extend my sincerest gratitude to Cpl. Mullins and his family for his courage and bravery, as his dedicated service cost him the ultimate price.

Corporal Mullins was born in Kentucky on December 19, 1926 and began serving in World War II on March 23, 1945. He continued to serve through the post-war period for one year and nine months. Remarkably, less than two years later, Cpl. Mullins enlisted for a second term of service on September 2, 1948 to serve in the Korean War.

At only twenty-three years old, Cpl. Mullins was reported Missing in Action on November 30, 1950 after enemy forces attacked his unit in the Chasin Reservoir, North Korea. While his remains originally couldn't be found, they were later recovered at the location of the battle where he went missing. It was determined that he was likely killed in action.

In June 2018, after nearly 70 years MIA, U.S. President Donald Trump and D.P.R.K. Chairman Kim Jong-Un conducted a summit meeting in Singapore where Chairman Kim promised to repatriate American remains collected by the D.P.R.K. during the Korean War. A month later, Cpl. Mullins' remains were returned home to the U.S. where he was reunited with his family. His family, who were unsure if they would ever know what happened to him, were glad to have closure and described it as a "wound finally healed."

Cpl. Mullins' return home was celebrated by the small Kentucky community where he grew up. His casket was escorted by a veterans

motorcycle group, and his funeral procession was met with community support, as some members of the community gathered to wave their American flags and pay their respects. The family is grateful to President Trump for the return of their loved one.

Madam Speaker, Corporal Burl Mullins was a courageous patriot who gave his life in service to our country. I am proud to honor him and his family.

HONORING HISPANIC HERITAGE
MONTH

HON. LUCY McBATH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 8, 2021

Mrs. McBATH. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month. Each year from September 15 to October 15, the history and culture of Americans whose ancestry can be traced from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America is recognized and celebrated. This observation was first established as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson in 1968. President Ronald Reagan later expanded the observance to a full month in 1988. This thirty-day period encapsulates many celebrations of independence for Latin American countries. September 15 is the anniversary of independence for Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Mexico and Chile also celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18.

During this month, we pause to recognize the profound influence of Hispanic Americans across the country. Guided by the promise of freedom and in search of a better life for themselves and their families, some of these individuals arrived with nothing but the clothes on their back and the hope of a better tomorrow. Once here, they charted their course, and created their own unique American destinies. In turn, their contributions have brought new ideas, new cuisines, new cultures to us all, and their presence here has created a more prosperous nation for all Americans. Hispanic Americans have had influence on practically every part of American history, from sports, to the fine arts, to science. Each day I am proud of their countless contributions to our country's story, and I would like to take this month to honor the crucial role that Hispanic Americans play in our society, and in Georgia's Sixth Congressional District in particular.

The Hispanic community in Georgia is proud, vibrant, and ever-growing. I am proud to represent so many of the men and women who have contributed so much to our communities each day—over half of Georgia's Hispanic population lives within the metropolitan Atlanta area. Hispanic Americans help contribute to what makes this Nation remarkable, and I am honored to lift up the voices of those who have selflessly dedicated their lives to building up themselves, their community, and this country. Over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, Hispanic Americans from all walks of life demonstrated their commitment to community and selfless service in their daily lives. Doctors saved lives, essential frontline workers kept grocery stores and pharmacies operational, and trusted community leaders continue to encourage their friends and neigh-

bors to get vaccinated. I am routinely impressed by the spirit of service and leadership displayed by Hispanic Americans in my district who work hard to give back to their own communities. Their work should be recognized every day, but particularly during Hispanic Heritage Month. Therefore, I am honored to highlight two individuals who deserve special recognition: Natalia Garzón and Zulma Lopez.

Natalia Garzón was born in Colombia but raised in Costa Rica, Ecuador, and Panama. Her passion for diversity and connectivity is what led her to pursue a career in Literature, Creative Writing, and French. Prior to her work in Atlanta, Natalia worked with nonprofits in Central America. She is a founder of RISE, a nonprofit that seeks to empower students in low-income neighborhoods in Panama. In Atlanta, she has worked as a Teacher's Assistant at Montclair Elementary, an ESL Associate Tutor for Tibetan monks and nuns, and she has established a partnership between the LAA's Club de Lectura and the Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry at her alma mater Emory University. In September of 2020, Natalia was named the director of development for We Love BuHi, an organization that works to preserve the multicultural identity of Atlanta's Buford Highway. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Natalia and We Love BuHi pivoted their focus to providing the people of the Buford Highway Corridor with locally sourced and culturally centric food to families that were in need. Their efforts fed over 52,000 people, and impacted nearly 15,000 families. Once COVID-19 vaccinations were made available, Natalia was an instrumental part of We Love BuHi's multilingual vaccination outreach efforts, which partnered with other local organizations and the cities of Doraville and Dunwoody to train volunteers and run multilingual vaccination clinics.

Zulma Lopez identifies herself as an immigration attorney, a small business owner, and most importantly, a mom. She was born and raised in Puerto Rico, where she obtained her undergraduate degree and J.D. from the University of Puerto Rico. During law school, Zulma also juggled the responsibilities of being a mom to her two oldest sons. In 2007, she moved to Georgia to reunite with her childhood friend and now husband Dax Lopez, and gave birth to a daughter and son to complete her family. In 2014, she opened her own law practice, Lopez Immigration LLC, to give families their own shot at the American dream by representing them before United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and filing family-based immigration petitions. As both an immigration attorney and a small business owner, she is passionate about creating opportunities for women and minority business owners in DeKalb County. As a mother who balanced her own professional development and education while raising her sons, she feels strongly about supporting students from preschool through college. In 2020, Zulma was elected to represent House District 86 in the Georgia House of Representatives, where she serves as the only Latina in the Georgia General Assembly. As an elected official in North DeKalb County, Zulma represents some of the same constituents that I have the privilege of representing here in Congress. I am proud of our shared constituency.

It is my distinct honor and privilege to recognize two of the many Hispanic Americans who work hard every day to make a difference in